

## Excerpts from John Lansing's Notes on Alexander Hamilton's Plan of Government

1. The Supreme Legislative Power of the United States of America to be vested in two distinct Bodies of Men the one to be called the Assembly the other the Senate, who together shall form the Legislature of the United States with power to pass all Laws whatsoever subject to the Negative hereafter mentioned.
2. The Assembly to consist of persons elected by the people to serve for three Years.
3. The Senate to consist of persons elected to serve during good Behaviour—their Election to be made by Electors chosen for that purpose by the people. In order to this the States to be divided into Election districts. On the Death Removal or Resignation of any Senator his place to be filled out of the District from which he came.
4. The Supreme Executive Authority of the United States to be vested in a Govr. to be elected to serve during good Behaviour. The Election to be made by Electors chosen by the people in the Election Districts afd. The Authorities & Functions to be as follows—to have a Negative upon all Laws about to be passed and the Execution of all Laws passed—to have the entire Direction of War when authorized or begun—to have with the Advice & Approbation of the Senate the power of making all Treaties—to have the sole Appointment of the Heads or chief Officers of the Departments of Finance, War & Foreign Affairs—to have the Nomination of all other officers (ambassadors to foreign Nations included) subject to the Approbation or Rejection of the Senate—to have the power of pardoning all offences except Treason which he shall not pardon without the Approbation of the Senate.
5. On the Death Resignation or Removal of the Govr. his Authorities to be exercised by the President of the Senate till a successor be appointed.
6. The Senate to have the sole power of declaring War—the power of advising and approving all Treaties—the power of approving or rejecting all Appointments of Officers except the Heads or Chiefs of the Departments of Finance and Foreign Affairs.

Source: John Lansing's Notes on Alexander Hamilton's Plan of Government, The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, GLC00819.10